



# DELAWARE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

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## The Delaware Nutrient Management Commission Minutes of the Full Commission Meeting Held March 13, 2007

### In attendance:

<i>Commission Members Present</i>	<i>Others Present</i>	
B. Vanderwende – Chair	B. Angstadt	N.W. Hurd
M. Adkins	G. Binford	J. McGrath
D. Baker	M. Brown	D. Melvin
R. Baldwin	K. Bunting-Howarth	K. Rankine
K. Blessing	B. Coleman	G. Rowe
A. Johnson	W. Ellis	C. Roberts
T. Keen	B. Feldman	P. Sample
E. Lewandowski	K. Foskey	J. Schneider
J. Manchester	T. Garrahan	T. Sims
C. Solberg	S. Hollenbeck	
R. Sterling		
<i>Commission Members Absent</i>	<i>Ex-officios Present</i>	
C. Larimore	W. Rohrer	
B. O'Neill	G. Llewellyn	
C. West		

*This meeting was properly notified and posted as required by 29 Del. C. §10004 et al.*

### Call to Order/Welcome:

Chairman B. Vanderwende called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

### Approval of Minutes:

J. Manchester pointed out some corrections to the January 09, 2007 Full Commission meeting minutes.

**J. Manchester motioned to adopt the minutes of the January 09, 2007 Full Commission meeting with modifications.**

**E. Lewandowski seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

### Discussion and Action Items:

*Modify and adopt minutes of December 12, 2006 Full Commission Meeting:*

**D. Baker motioned to approve amended minutes of the December 12, 2006 Full Commission meeting.**

**A. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

### *Mass Balancing Presentation (Dr. Tom Sims)*

T. Sims presentation covered the current nutrient balances, and how factors have changed in the past ten years. He explained that the nutrient balance is basically *What we have vs. What we need (for crop production)*.

In the past ten years:

- Crop land acreage has decreased by 16%;

- There has been a 23% decrease in N fertilizer sales;
- There has been a 56% decrease in P fertilizer sales;
- However, in the past year, there has been a slight increase in both N and P fertilizer sales;
- There has been a decrease in N and P usage which can be attributed to Nutrient Management education and planning;
- 40% less milk cows, cattle, calves and swine, causing less manure;
- Delaware agricultural statistics showed 250,000,000 broilers in 1999, 240,000,000 in 2004, 280,000,000 in 2005
- It is believed that the steep increase in 2005 is incorrect, and is in the process of being corrected to represent 258,000,000;
- 30% reduction in P through use of phytase in feed;
- Should identify “acceptable surplus value” to determine success and to have a target; a zero balance is unrealistic;
- Urban situations pose problems in calculations of nutrient budget that can be applicable.

He suggested the following:

- Meet to work out kinks in data (Meeting scheduled for March 20, 2:30 at DDA);
- Need some electronic means to track data annually;
- Discuss database issues (Some facets of data are confidential);
- Work with DDA fertilizer sales and production;
- A report can be generated in a couple of weeks at the most;
- A farm-scale version of software could be distributed to farmers.

#### *Critical Areas Presentation (J. Schneider)*

B. Rohrer introduced J. Schneider, stating that the first set of Critical Areas Maps were completed in 2000, and were updated in 2002. They have been revised for the April, 2007 Annual Report to Governor Minner and the 144<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

His summary provided the following:

- Nutrients have greatest impact in the estuaries, where water slows down;
- J. Manchester asked to have a “Very High” category created;
- J. Schneider explained that it is very hard to have everything a priority;

Commission approved using the new Critical Areas Map in the Annual Report.

#### *Urban Nutrient Management Presentation (L. Boyer)*

She has prepared and distributed a brochure giving homeowner’s the following ideas to improve Nutrient Management:

- Construct a rain garden;
- Use rain barrels;
- Prevent stormwater contamination;
- She will prepare another brochure this Spring with more ideas on Urban Nutrient Management;
- Urban Nutrient Management workshops will take place this May in Sussex County, and she would like to move into Kent and New Castle Counties, tracking by watershed.

J. Huges mentioned the Cancer Consortium; B. Rohrer said that he is on the Agenda for 03/19/2007.

B. Rohrer stated that the Turf BMP Booklet would work well for workshop display.

P. Sample commended S. Hollenbeck for his work at the Meeting for the Center for Inland Bays, noting that the progress from this group has been tremendous. E. Lewandowski seconded his thoughts.

### **Subcommittee Reports:**

#### *Review and Act on Research Priorities for Nutrient Management*

B. Rohrer asked for a list of 5 or 6 possibilities for Research and Development projects.

#### *Review and Act on 2006 Poultry Company Report*

B. Rohrer stated that reports are due May 1, and will be presented at the May Full Commission meeting.

J. Manchester asked that the Annual Report reflect language that there is still a lot to do with regard to Nutrient Management. B. Rohrer stated that he would include it in the Introduction.

B. Vanderwende presented a Recognition Plaque to E. Lewandowski, who has resigned as an Environmental Advocacy Representative on the Commission. Ed expressed his gratitude and how he enjoyed serving on the Commission.

**Administrator's Report:** *Refer to the attached Administrator's Report*

B. Rohrer explained the Administrator's Report.

**Public Comments:** NONE

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Full Commission is scheduled for April 10, 2007 at 7:00 pm.

B. Rohrer read the following statement into the record:

*"(The) EPA, in an e-mail received by DNREC's Peder Hansen at 4:15 pm today, has disclosed its intention to conduct 'unannounced' inspections of two Delaware farms Wednesday and Thursday of this week. We do not know the farms to be inspected, but have been informed only of their general locations; Roxana and Argo's Corner."*

**Adjournment:**

Chairman B. Vanderwende adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Approved,

W. Vanderwende, Chairman  
WRR/psd